



A Message from the Director of the National Science Foundation

Sixty-six years ago this month, the nation embarked on a bold experiment, one that would continue to benefit from the input of scientists and engineers that helped the nation in times of war, and begin building a robust research enterprise in the U.S. But it wasn't easy. Presidential science advisor Vannevar Bush's pivotal report "Science—The Endless Frontier," which called for a centralized approach to government-sponsored science, was published in 1945. It would take five years of debate before then-President Harry S. Truman signed legislation establishing the National Science Foundation (NSF).

In the nearly seven decades since, NSF has stayed true to its original mission by playing a critical role in establishing U.S. leadership in science and engineering fields, creating innovations that drive the economy and developing the best tools to address threats, whether natural or manmade. As importantly, NSF has supported efforts to find and train new talent and improve science education at every level.

As we consider the coming decades, we must ensure that U.S. research remains competitive. We need to be thinking about the bold, new, long-term research questions that need to be asked today to allow for a future that benefits society and captures our imaginations. Thank you for your continued help to ensure that federal support of science and technology will remain a top priority.



Dr. France A. Córdoba
Director, National Science Foundation
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Where Discoveries Begin...



[Potential Zika virus risk estimated for 50 U.S. cities](#)

Weather, travel and poverty may facilitate summertime outbreaks.



[Combining machine learning forecasts with financial market dynamics](#)

An NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) awardee combines machine learning and economics to develop socially beneficial forecasts in fields such as drug discovery and weather prediction.



[Neuroscience research into dyslexia yields unexpected benefits for biometrics](#)

Research from a study to predict which children may develop reading problems could become a “game-changer” for the security industry.

What's Next?

May 25, 2016: Join us for a screening of “Solar Superstorms” followed by a panel discussion with scientific experts. 253 Russell Senate Ofc. Bldg., 11:30 am-1:00 p.m. RSVP to symposium@nsf.gov

June 2, 2016: KAVLI Prize Announcement, [World Science Festival, NYC](#). Dr. France Córdova will deliver the keynote address at the breakfast.

June 9, 2016: Celebrating 5 years of the [National Robotics Initiative](#).

Then & Now

We reflect as NSF celebrates its 66th birthday. [View the infographic.](#)

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National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
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